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APR. NO. 251



ACTION COMICS

I HOPE HE GIVES
ME A HITCH... (PUFF)...
FLYING IS TOO MUCH
OF AN EFFORT FOR
ME IN MY OLD AGE!

Will SUPERMAN
live forever?
SEE WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN HE BECOMES..
**"The
OLDEST MAN
IN
METROPOLIS!"**





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SUPERMAN

THE SUPER-POWERS OF THE MAN OF STEEL ARE LEGENDARY! THE WHOLE WORLD MARVELS AT HIS INVULNERABILITY, SUPER-

SPEED, SUPER-STRENGTH AND OTHER SUPER-SKILLS! BUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF **SUPERMAN** SUDDENLY **LOST** ALL THESE POWERS? HOW COULD HE MEET THE COUNTLESS EMERGENCIES WHICH REQUIRE ALL HIS FANTASTIC STRENGTHS IF, OVERNIGHT, HE BECOMES THE WEAK, AGED DUFFER KNOWN AS...

"The OLDEST MAN in METROPOLIS!"

SUPERMAN
FLYING FASTER
THAN THE SPEED
OF LIGHT!



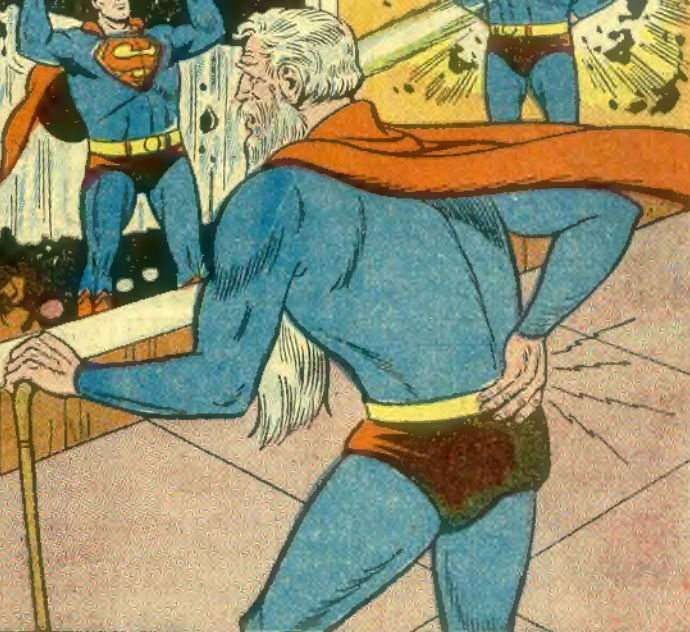
SUPERMAN
The
MIGHTIEST MAN
ON EARTH!



SUPERMAN
The
INDESTRUCTIBLE
MAN OF STEEL!



YEP... THAT'S HOW I
USED TO BE WHEN I
HAD **ALL** MY SUPER-POWERS!
NOW I'M JUST A TIRED OLD
DUFFER WHO CAN HARDLY
STAND UP!



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AT THE **METROPOLIS RESEARCH CENTER**, ONE DAY, WHERE **DAILY PLANET** REPORTER, CLARK KENT, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO INTERVIEW A FAMOUS SCIENTIST...

MY NEW VITAMIN SERUM MAY ADD YEARS TO HUMAN LIFE! HOWEVER, I INTEND TO TEST IT ON MYSELF FOR DANGEROUS SIDE-EFFECTS BEFORE ASKING FOR HUMAN VOLUNTEERS...

HMM... I CAN'T LET A VALUABLE SCIENTIST LIKE PROF. VANCE RISK HIS LIFE THIS WAY!

AS THE PROFESSOR GOES TO ANSWER HIS PHONE...

EXCUSE ME WHILE I TAKE THE CALL, KENT!

NOW'S MY CHANCE! IF THIS STUFF IS DANGEROUS, IT WON'T AFFECT ME! AFTER ALL, I'M **SUPERMAN**—AND **NOTHING** CAN HARM ME EXCEPT **KRYPTONITE**! SO I'LL DRINK IT AND TEST IT LATER IN MY **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE**!

RRING!

WHEN THE PROFESSOR RETURNS...

YOU... YOU DRANK THE WHOLE THING—JUST TO SAVE **ME** FROM TAKING THE RISK! THAT WAS COURAGEOUS, MR. KENT! BUT—YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT! HOW DO YOU FEEL?

WELL ENOUGH TO WALK OUT OF HERE AND WRITE A GOOD STORY ON YOUR RESEARCH, PROFESSOR!

BUT SHORTLY AFTER CLARK'S DEPARTURE, AS THE DOCTOR LOOKS IN ON THE GUINEA PIGS PREVIOUSLY TESTED WITH THE VITAMIN SERUM...

GOOD HEAVENS! IT WAS ONLY LAST NIGHT I HAD THESE YOUNG GUINEA PIGS DRINK MY NEW VITAMIN SERUM! AND OVERNIGHT THEY'VE GROWN TO **OLD AGE**!

I—I HOPE THAT BRAVE YOUNG REPORTER ISN'T AFFECTED THE SAME WAY!

MEANWHILE, CLARK, AFTER A QUICK SWITCH TO **SUPERMAN**, HAS REACHED THE AIRPLANE MARKER HIDING THE GIANT KEY TO HIS **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE**...

ONCE I PUT THE REMAINDER OF THIS SERUM I SAVED FROM THAT FLASK THROUGH SOME SPECIAL TESTS, I'LL KNOW WHETHER IT'S SAFE FOR HUMANS TO DRINK! THAT WAY NO ONE WILL SUFFER ANY RISK!

SOON, AT THE NORTH POLE RETREAT THAT IS **SUPERMAN'S** SECRET AND SOLITARY HOME...

IF MY TESTS PROVE SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL BE A BOON FOR THE HUMAN RACE. PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE MANY, MANY MORE YEARS!

AND PRESENTLY, INSIDE HIS OWN SUPER-LABORATORY, AS HE USES HIS AMAZING X-RAY VISION...

OH-OOH! ACCORDING TO THIS COSMO-SPECTRUM ANALYSIS, THERE'S A VERY STRANGE COMBINATION OF ELEMENTS IN THIS VITAMIN! IN FACT, IT CONTAINS ISOTOPES RESEMBLING **KRYPTONITE** WHICH MAY EVEN AFFECT ME!



AFTER LEAVING THE FORTRESS, **SUPERMAN** FLIES BACK TO METROPOLIS AND RESUMES HIS SECRET **CLARK KENT** IDENTITY AND, AT BEDTIME...

THAT VITAMIN SERUM I DRANK WORRIES ME! I WONDER IF THE **KRYPTONITE** ISOTOPES IT CONTAINED WILL HAVE AN EFFECT ON MY INVULNERABLE BODY! OH, WELL--IT'S TIME TO GO TO SLEEP!



THE NEXT MORNING, WHEN CLARK AWAKENS AND STARES AT HIS HANDS...

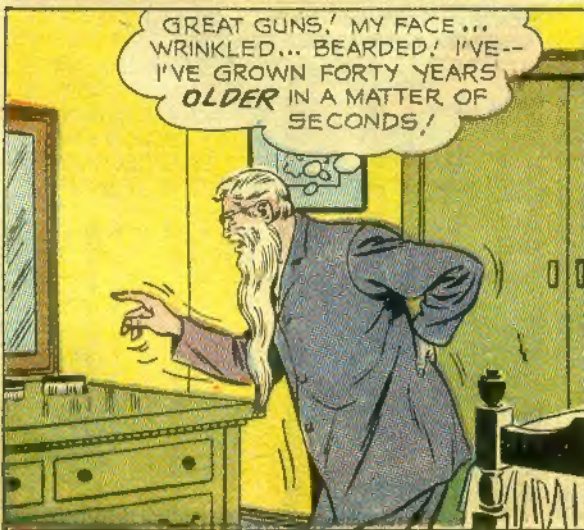
I-- G-GREAT SCOTT!... MY HANDS... THEY'RE GNARLED AND BONY!



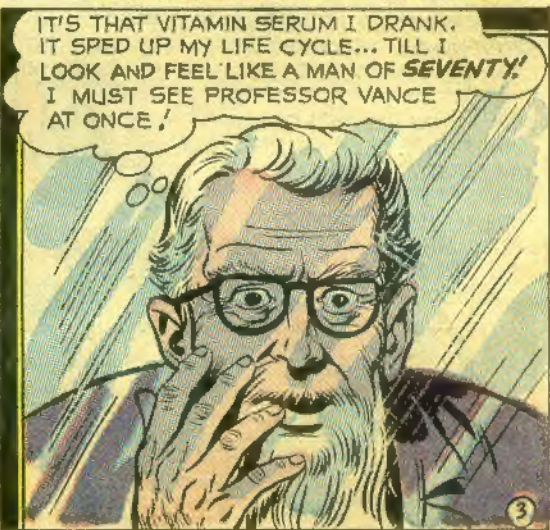
AND M-MY BODY! IT'S BECOME SHRIVELED AND STOOPED! I C-CAN'T STAND COMPLETELY ERECT!



GREAT GUNS! MY FACE... WRINKLED... BEARDED! I'VE-- I'VE GROWN FORTY YEARS **OLDER** IN A MATTER OF SECONDS!



IT'S THAT VITAMIN SERUM I DRANK. IT SPED UP MY LIFE CYCLE... TILL I LOOK AND FEEL LIKE A MAN OF **SEVENTY!** I MUST SEE PROFESSOR VANCE AT ONCE!



AN HOUR LATER, AT METROPOLIS VETERAN'S HOSPITAL...

YOU DRANK A VERY STRONG CONCENTRATE OF THE VITAMIN SERUM, MR. KENT, SO I RATHER EXPECTED THIS REACTION! I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU IN THE MORNING...

Y-YES, DOCTOR... YES! J-JUST TELL ME! IS-IS THERE AN **ANTIDOTE**?



AMAZING! EVEN YOU **VOICE** HAS BECOME AN **OLD MAN'S** VOICE... CRACKED AND QUAVERING! BUT IN THREE DAYS THE SERUM'S EFFECT WILL WEAR OFF! LOOK AT THESE FRISKY, YOUNG GUINEA PIGS! A FEW HOURS AGO THEY WERE AS AGED AS YOURSELF!



EXACTLY 72 HOURS AFTER THE CREATURES DRANK THE SERUM, THEY WERE RESTORED BACK TO THEIR ORIGINAL AGE!

THREE DAYS, EH? GOOD GRIEF! IF ANY EMERGENCIES ARISE WHILE I'M IN THIS CONDITION, I'M SUNK! IF ANYONE SEES **SUPERMAN** WITH THIS BEARD, THEY'LL KNOW IT'S CLARK KENT!

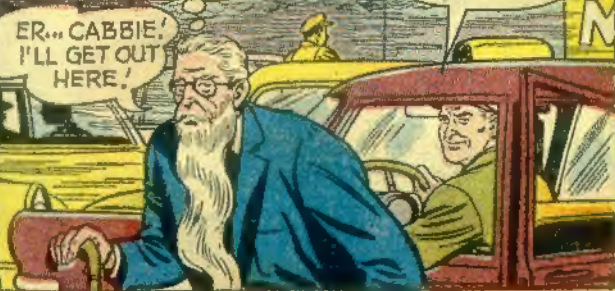


AFTER A SLEEPLESS NIGHT, CLARK WORRIEDLY DRESSES AND TAKES A CAB TO THE **PLANET** OFFICE...

A TRAFFIC JAM...AND I'M PLENTY LATE ALREADY! I'D BETTER SWITCH TO **SUPERMAN** AND FLY THE REST OF THE WAY!

BETTER NOT WALK IT, DAD! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ON YOUR LAST LEGS!

ER... CABBIE! I'LL GET OUT HERE!



THE CAB-DRIVER IS ALMOST PROPHETIC, AS **SUPERMAN** DISCOVERS AFTER A QUICK COSTUME CHANGE IN A DESERTED ALLEY...

WOW! M-MY POWERS OF FLIGHT AND SPEED HAVE BEEN TERRIFICALLY WEAKENED! I-I CAN'T SOAR HIGH! (PUFF!)(PUFF!)...ALTITUDE MAKES ME D-DIZZY! I J-JUST MANAGED TO AVOID COLLIDING WITH THAT SKYSCRAPER!



I-I MUST REST! I CAN'T TAKE THE CONTINUOUS EXERTION!... (PUFF!-PUFF!)

THANK GOODNESS FOR THIS SLIGHT FOG! NOBODY'LL SEE HOW HORRIBLY I'VE AGED! OR HOW **UN-SUPER** I'VE BECOME! HEAVEN HELP ME IF MY SUPER-POWERS ARE NEEDED!



LATER, AS AN ELDERLY CLARK KENT HOBBLES INTO THE PLANET OFFICE...

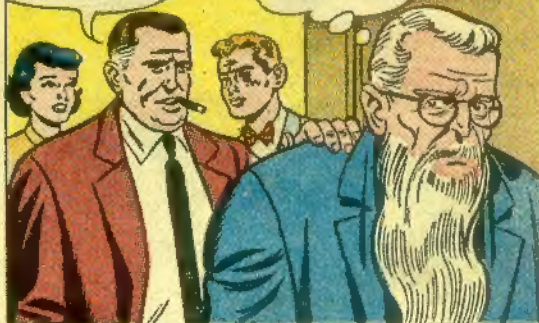
...AND SO, PERRY, I'VE GOT TO WAIT EXACTLY 72 HOURS ...TILL I BECOME MY OWN AGE AGAIN! AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT PROF. VANCE TOLD ME!

LET'S HOPE THE PROFESSOR'S RIGHT... BECAUSE WE **RETIRE** REPORTERS OF YOUR AGE, CLARK! MEANWHILE, I'LL GIVE YOU ONLY EASY ASSIGNMENTS!

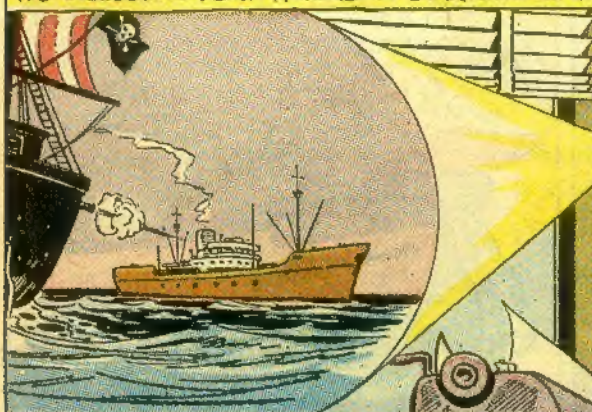


START WITH A FEATURE-STORY ON **SUPERMAN'S** CIRCUS APPEARANCE THIS THURSDAY! HE'S TO BE SHOT OUT OF A REAL CANNON!

YE GODS! I CLEAN **FORGOT!** THAT CANNON SHOT ACT IS FOR CHARITY! BUT IN **MY** CONDITION, IF I KEEP LOSING MY POWERS AS **SUPERMAN**, I'LL BE BLOWN TO BITS!



BUT LATER, AT HIS DESK, AS CLARK GLANCES OUT THE WINDOW, HIS TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS A STARTLING SIGHT...



THANK GOODNESS MY TELESCOPIC VISION IS STILL WORKING! THAT BIZARRE GANGSTER, CAPTAIN CUTLASS, AND HIS PIRATE CREW ARE ATTACKING A FREIGHTER! I'LL HAVE TO SLIP AWAY ON SOME PRETEXT AND GO TO ITS RESCUE!

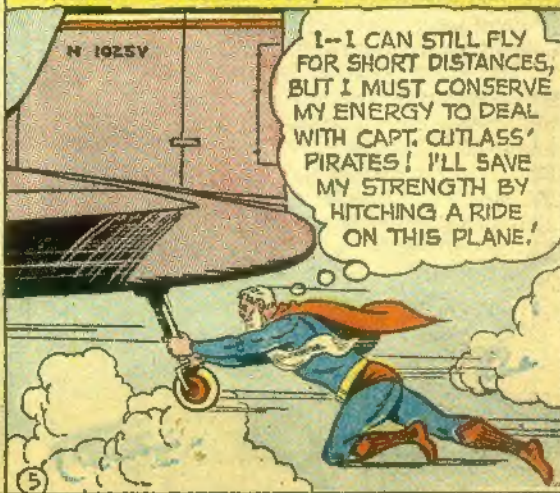


ER... MY CANE JUST BROKE, LOIS! I'LL HAVE TO GO OUT AND BUY ANOTHER WALKING STICK!

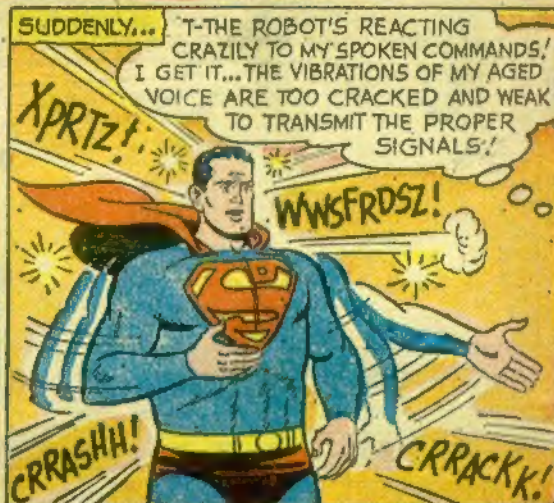


OKAY, OLD BOY! I'LL HELP YOU TO THE ELEVATOR!

SECONDS LATER, AFTER CLARK SECRETLY SWITCHES TO **SUPERMAN**, AND HEADS HOME...



I--I CAN STILL FLY FOR SHORT DISTANCES, BUT I MUST CONSERVE MY ENERGY TO DEAL WITH CAPT. CUTLASS' PIRATES! I'LL SAVE MY STRENGTH BY HITCHING A RIDE ON THIS PLANE!



BUT LATER, AFTER **SUPERMAN** LEAVES METROPOLIS, SO FEEBLE ARE HIS POWERS OF FLIGHT, THAT HE MUST MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING!

G-GOT TO REST! (PUFF! PUFF!)
I--I'LL RIDE THIS WHALE! HE'S HEADED IN THE SAME DIRECTION! (PUFF! PUFF!)



BUT AS THE WHALE SUDDENLY DESCENDS, **SUPERMAN DIVES** WITH HIM!

WHAT A COMEDOWN!
I...THE ONCE-MIGHTY **SUPERMAN**...REDUCED TO OCEANIC HITCH-HIKING! HMM... I CAN USE SOME OF THIS SEAWEED FOR THE COSTUME I HAVE IN MIND!



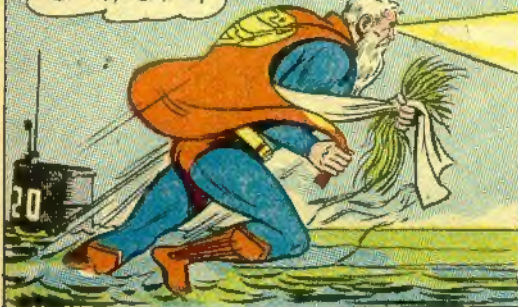
LATER...

THE WHALE STOPPED SWIMMING, SO I'LL T-TRANSFER TO THAT SUB! I'VE GOT TO CONSERVE MY ENERGY FOR THE PIRATES!



PRESENTLY, WHEN THE SUB ALSO DIVES...

MY TELESCOPIC VISION TELLS ME I'M APPROACHING THE PIRATE SHIP! IT'S TIME I DISGUISED MYSELF WITH THESE SHEETS I TOOK FROM CLARK KENT'S BED AND CARRIED INSIDE THE POUCH OF MY CAPE!



SOON AFTER, WHILE CAPTAIN CUTLASS AND HIS CREW CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESSFUL RAID...

L-LOOK!
YIII! WHERE'D HE COME FROM?

AVAST, YE SWABS! THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA** COMMANDS YE! ABOUT FACE, AND RETURN THE GOLD--OR FACE MY WRATH! I'LL PUNISH YE WITH A THOUSAND PLAGUES... UNLESS YE SURRENDER!



FOR PETE'S SAKE...
LISTEN TO HIM, BOSS! I'VE HEARD LEGENDS ABOUT THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA**! HE'S GOT ALL KINDS OF SUPERNATURAL POWERS!



BOSH! THE LAW PULLED THIS TRICK TO SCARE US! GRAB THE JOKER AND PUT HIM IN CHAINS! I'LL MAKE HIM WALK THE PLANK!

I'LL LET MYSELF BE CAUGHT! I WANT TO GIVE THESE RASCALS THE SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES!

AH! YOU SEE? HE'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF A JELLY-FISH! IF HE WERE THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA**, WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS, HE'D TOSS US ALL IN THE SEA!





SOON AFTER, AS THE PIRATES MAKE THE VISITOR WALK THE PLANK...

THE CAP'N IS RIGHT! HE AIN'T NO SUPER-NATURAL BEING! THE OLD GEEZER'S HELPLESS AGAINST US!

GLOAT WHILE YE CAN, FOOLS! I SHALL RETURN FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA TO PUNISH YE!

TELL THAT TO THE FISH, GRANDPA!



PRESENTLY, WHEN THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA** HITS BOTTOM...

I CAN'T USE MY X-RAY VISION TO MELT THE CHAINS! MY HANDS ARE TIED **BEHIND** MY BACK! BUT I'LL USE MY LONG BEARD TO SAW THROUGH THE IRON LINKS LIKE A **FILE**! I'LL BE FREE IN A MINUTE!



MOMENTS LATER, AS **SUPERMAN**, STILL DISGUISED AS THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA**, BREAKS SURFACE...

I-LOOK, BOSS! HE'S **BACK**! HE ESCAPED DEATH! AN' HE'S **FLYIN'**! HE'S GOTTA BE **SUPERNATURAL** TO FLY!

YOU'RE CRAZY! HE USED A TRICK TO BUST THE CHAINS! LIKE HE'S FAKING FLYING NOW! I'LL STOP HIM FOR GOOD... WITH A **CANNON BALL**!



HE CAN'T FAKE HIS WAY OUT OF **THIS** SPOT! THE CANNON-BALL WILL GO RIGHT THROUGH ANY HUMAN BEING!

UH-OH! I'D BETTER BRACE MYSELF! MY STRENGTH ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE!



OOOOO! THAT H-HURT! NOW I KNOW WHAT HUMAN BEINGS GO THROUGH WHEN THEY HAVE A BELLY-ACHE!

IT D-DIDN'T GO THROUGH HIM! IT'S **BOUNCIN'** OFF! THAT PROVES HE'S REALLY THE **OLD MAN OF THE SEA**!

YOU'RE RIGHT! HE ONLY LET US CAPTURE HIM TO TEACH US A LESSON!



D-DON'T HURT US, **OLD MAN OF THE SEA**! WE'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY! WE KNOW YOU'RE ALL POWERFUL!

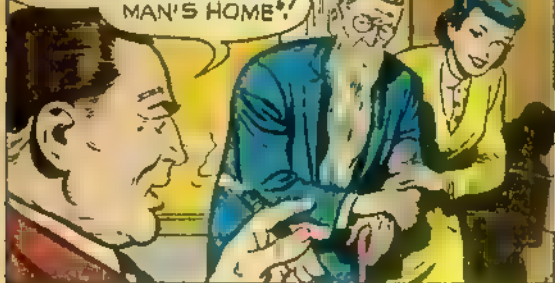
AH! NOW YE'RE WISE! SAIL DUE EAST AND SURRENDER TO THE COAST GUARD SHIP CRUISING THERE!



THE NEXT MORNING, AS CLARK HOBBOLES INTO THE **PLANET** OFFICE...

CLARK! WITH THAT BEARD OF YOURS I'VE GOT AN ASSIGNMENT THAT'S A NATURAL! YOU'LL SPEND A DAY AT THE LOCAL **OLD MAN'S HOME!** THEN YOU'LL WRITE A FEATURE, "I LIVED IN AN OLD MAN'S HOME!"

C'MON, GRAMPS! I'LL DRIVE YOU THERE!



PRESENTLY, AT THE **OLD MAN'S HOME**...

YOU SHOULD GET PLENTY OF MATERIAL FROM THIS WHEEL-CHAIR!

HERE'S MR. KENT'S LUNCH, MISS LANE! EVERYTHING AN OLD MAN LIKES! MUSH, SOFT-BOILED EGG, AND HOT MILK!

M-MUSH! UGH!



BUT AN HOUR LATER, AFTER LOIS LEAVES, AS CLARK BEGINS TO FEEL AT HOME...

FOUR FOR ONE! HMM... YOUR PLAYING'S MIGHTY RUSTY, MR. KENT!

HOW CAN I KEEP MY MIND ON ON CHECKERS? MY TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS TWO MEN PLANNING TO ROB STACY'S DEPARTMENT STORE!



THE THIEVES ARE HIDING IN THE STOCK-ROOM OF THE TOY DEPARTMENT! I'VE GOT AN IDEA! THE OLD MEN WERE TALKING ABOUT A POSITION BEING OPEN AT THE STORE... AS A **SANTA CLAUS!** I'LL APPLY FOR THE JOB!



PRESENTLY, AT STACY'S DEPARTMENT STORE, AS CLARK PLAYS SANTA CLAUS...

I LOVE READING THESE KIDS' XMAS LISTS WITH MY X-RAY VISION!

WELL, SONNY... IT SEEMS YOU WANT A CAMERA AND A SLED!

GOSH, SANTA! Y-YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT WITHOUT SEEING MY LIST?



LATER, AS THE SECTION MANAGER ASKS CLARK TO HELP A CUSTOMER...

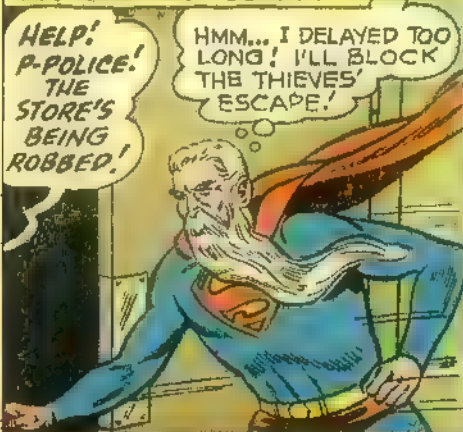
SANTA! PLEASE TRY ON THIS **SUPERMAN** COSTUME FOR THIS CUSTOMER! HE WANTS TO MAKE SURE IT'LL FIT HIS FATHER!

OF COURSE, SIR! I'LL CHANGE IN THE DRESSING ROOM!

I'LL USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SURPRISE THE TWO THIEVES!



BUT AS SOON AS CLARK CHANGES INTO THE **SUPERMAN** COSTUME...



**HELP!
P-POLICE!
THE
STORE'S
BEING
ROBBED!**

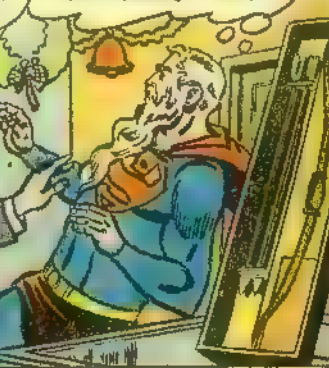
HMM... I DELAYED TOO LONG! I'LL BLOCK THE THIEVES' ESCAPE!

BUT A MOMENT LATER...

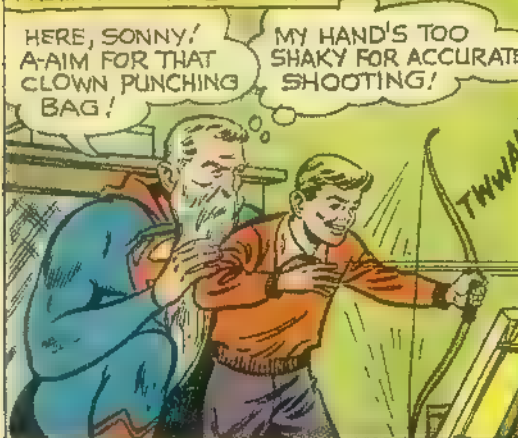
LOOK WHO'S PLAYIN' **SUPERMAN**! OUTA OUR WAY, GRANDPA!... EVERYBODY! STAND BACK AN' NOBODY'LL GET HURT!



(GASP!)... G-GREAT GUNS! I-I'VE LOST MY **SUPER-STRENGTH**! BUT MY MIND ISN'T WEAK! I'LL STOP 'EM **ANOTHER WAY!**



HASTILY HANDING A BOY A BOW AND ARROW FROM THE TOY COUNTER...



HERE, SONNY! A-AIM FOR THAT CLOWN PUNCHING BAG!

MY HAND'S TOO SHAKY FOR ACCURATE SHOOTING!

TWANNING

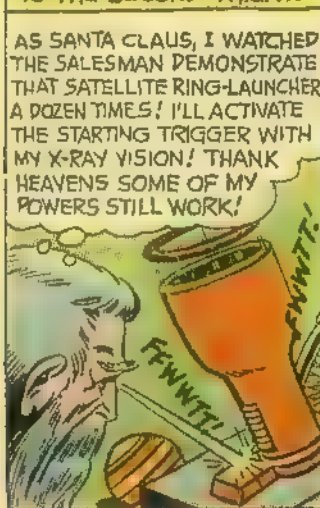
I-IT'S THE **POLICE**!... (GASP')... THEY'RE **SHOOTIN'** AT ME!



D-DON'T SHOOT! I GIVE UP! I'M T-THROWIN' AWAY MY GUN!



THEN, TURNING HIS ATTENTION TO THE SECOND THIEF...



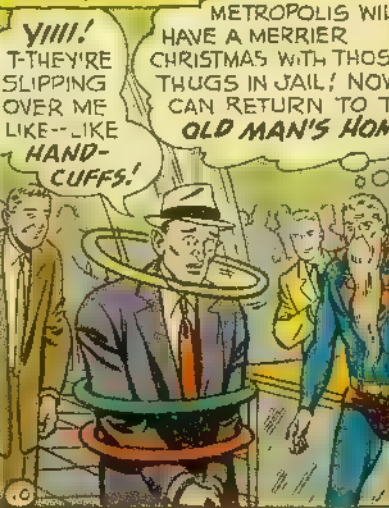
AS SANTA CLAUS, I WATCHED THE SALESMAN DEMONSTRATE THAT SATELLITE RING-LAUNCHER A DOZEN TIMES! I'LL ACTIVATE THE STARTING TRIGGER WITH MY X-RAY VISION! THANK HEAVENS SOME OF MY POWERS STILL WORK!

NOW TO GUIDE THOSE WHIRLING SPACE-RINGS WITH MY **SUPER-BREATH**!...



OUTA MY WAY, YOU HEAR?

ONE RING SWIFTLY FOLLOWS THE OTHER, UNTIL...



YIII! T-THEY'RE SLIPPING OVER ME LIKE-- LIKE **HAND-CUFFS!**

METROPOLIS WILL HAVE A MERRIER CHRISTMAS WITH THOSE THUGS IN JAIL! NOW I CAN RETURN TO THE **OLD MAN'S HOME!**



ACTION COMICS



THAT EVEN NG, AT THE **OLD MAN'S HOME**, THERE IS MUCH JOY—BUT ALSO A LITTLE SADNESS...

POOR CASEY... IT'S HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY! HE WANTS TO BLOW OUT ALL THE CANDLES AT ONE TIME... BUT HIS LUNGS ARE TOO WEAK TO GET HIS WISH!

MY LUNGS AREN'T THAT WEAK... **YET!** I'LL STAND BEHIND CASEY AND USE MY SUPER-BREATH!



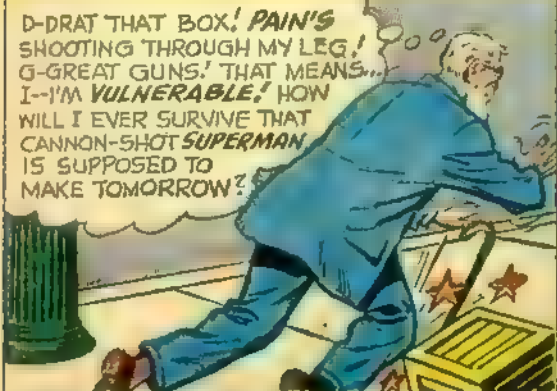
I--I DID IT! WITH ONE PUFF, I BLEW 'EM ALL OUT! THIS IS THE HAPPIEST DAY IN MY LIFE!

THAT'S THAT! NOW I CAN R-RETURN TO THE **PLANET** OFFICE AND WRITE THE ARTICLE PERRY WANTED!



BUT AS CLARK LIMPS ALONG THE STREET, SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT REMINDS HIM OF HIS SCHEDULED **SUPERMAN** ASSIGNMENT...

D-D-RAT THAT BOX! **PAIN'S** SHOOTING THROUGH MY LEG! G-GREAT GUNS! THAT MEANS... I-I'M **VULNERABLE!** HOW WILL I EVER SURVIVE THAT CANNON-SHOT **SUPERMAN** IS SUPPOSED TO MAKE TOMORROW?



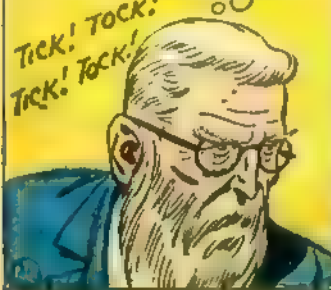
LATER, REACHING THE **PLANET** OFFICE, CLARK OVERHEARS A CONVERSATION...

PERRY'S TALKING WITH HEADQUARTERS! SEEMS THE POLICE SUSPECT **THE CLOCK** OF A NEW ROBBERY! IT'S TIME **THE CLOCK** WAS RUN DOWN AND JAILED! I'VE GOT AN IDEA THAT MIGHT **WORK!**



THE CLOCK'S A CROOK WHO'S OBSESSED WITH TIME! HE USES CLOCKS IN ALL HIS CRIMES! A TIME BOMB CLOCK, A CLOCK THAT DISCHARGES SLEEPING GAS TO OVERCOME ROBBERY VICTIMS, AND SO ON! MAYBE I CAN USE CLOCKS TO TRICK **HIM!**

TICK! TOCK!
TICK! TOCK!



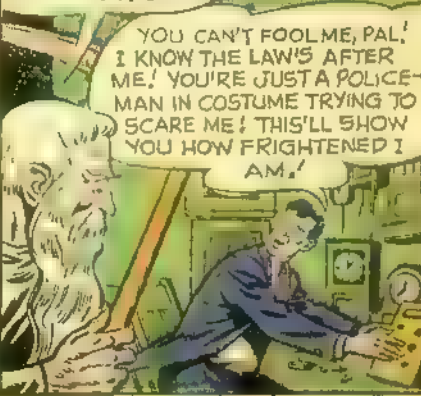
USING HIS WANING POWERS OF SUPER-HEARING, **THE MAN OF STEEL** PICKS UP THE FAINT SOUND OF DISTANT TICKING CLOCKS, AND BEAMS HIS FALTERING TELESCOPIC VISION IN THAT DIRECTION...

NOW I KNOW WHERE **THE CLOCK'S** HIDEOUT IS! IRONICALLY, MY BEARD WILL BE USEFUL AGAIN FOR MY NEXT COSTUME!



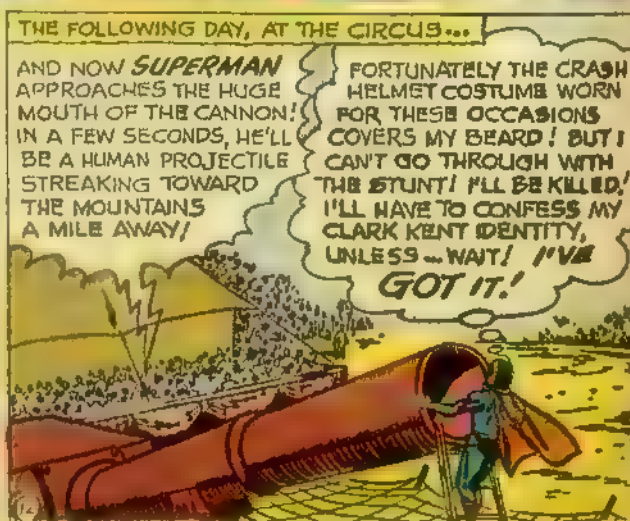
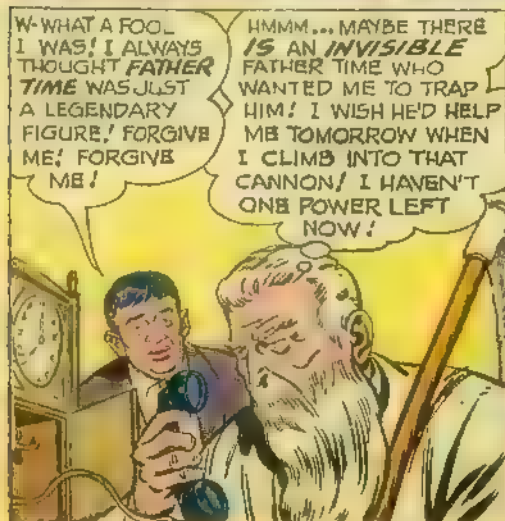
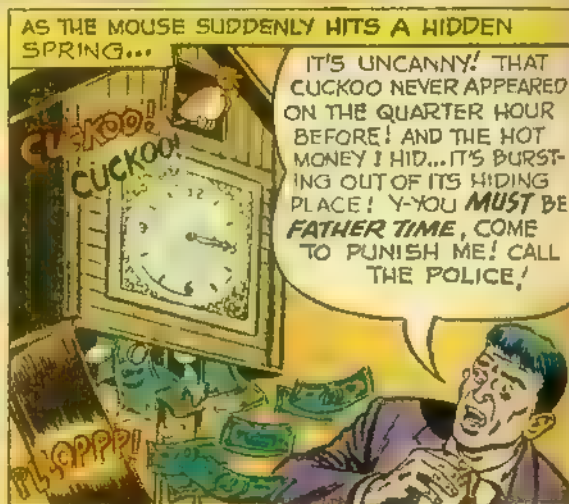
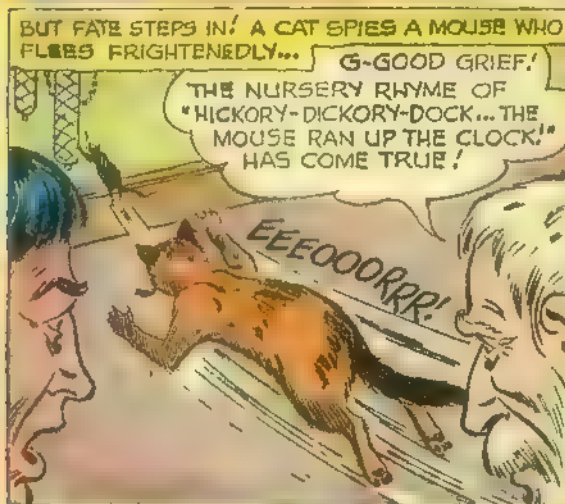
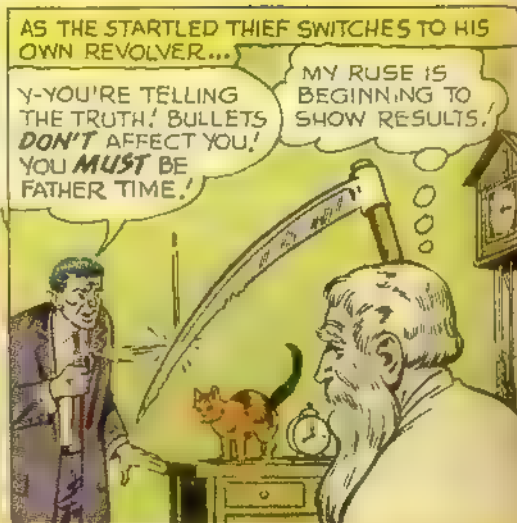
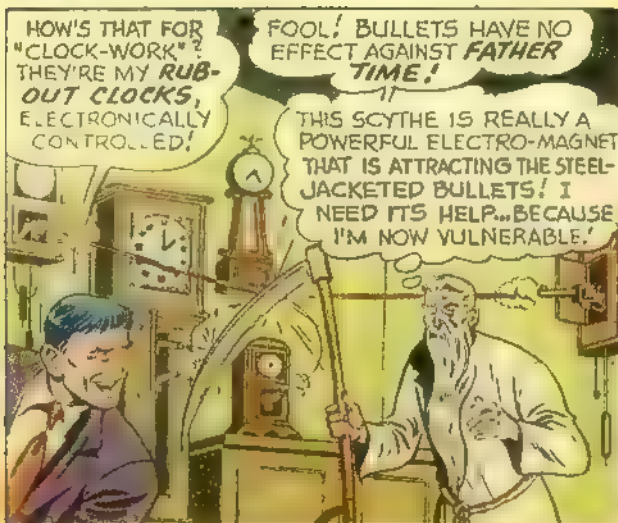
AN HOUR LATER, A STRANGE FIGURE ENTERS **THE CLOCK'S** BASEMENT HIDEOUT...

I'M **FATHER TIME!** YOUR HOUR HAS STRUCK! FROM NOW ON YOU'LL **DO** TIME IN **PRISON!**





ACTION COMICS





A HUSH FALLS OVER THE CROWD! NECKS CRANE TENSELY! THE GUNNER DRAMATICALLY PUSHES THE FIRING BUTTON! BUT... **NOTHING HAPPENS!**

SUPERMAN! THE GUN MISFIRED! WE'LL HAVE TO CHECK THE FIRING MECHANISM BEFORE WE CAN RESUME! THAT'LL TAKE ABOUT AN HOUR!

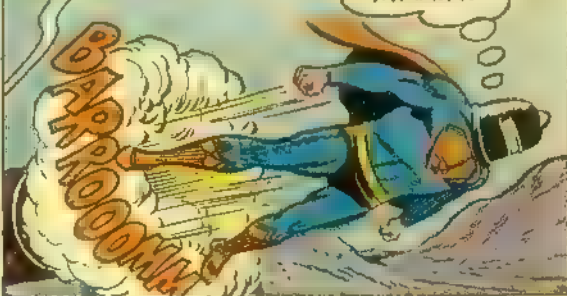
SORRY, FOLKS! THE FIRING WILL HAVE TO BE POSTPONED FOR AN HOUR! MEANWHILE, WE'LL TAKE YOU BACK TO THE STUDIO!



BUT AN HOUR LATER, THE GUN IS **FIRE!**

THERE HE GOES! PROPELLED BY EXPLOSIVES THAT WOULD KILL ANYBODY EXCEPT **SUPERMAN!**

WELL, I DID IT! I LUCKILY REMEMBERED THE PROFESSOR'S WORDS... THAT THE GUINEA PIGS REGAINED THEIR YOUTH EXACTLY **72 HOURS** AFTER THEY ATE THE VITAMIN!



I DRANK THE VITAMIN **71 HOURS** AGO! SO I DISCONNECTED PART OF THE FIRING MECHANISM AT THE BASE OF THE BARREL, SO THAT I COULD STALL **ONE EXTRA HOUR** TILL I REGAINED MY YOUTH AND POWERS!



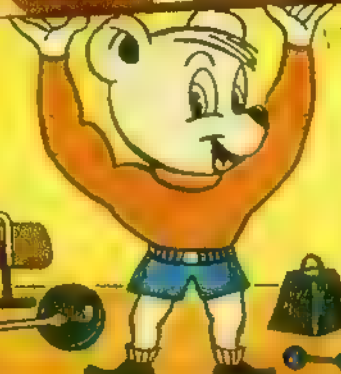
THAT EVENING, AS LOIS CELEBRATES CLARK KENT'S REJUVENATION BY TAKING HIM TO THE THEATER...

W-WHAT'S THE MATTER, CLARK? IS ANYTHING WRONG?

PLENTY, LOIS! LOOK AT THE MUSICAL YOU SELECTED! **RIP VAN WINKLE... WHO GREW OLD** OVERNIGHT! IT'S ENOUGH TO TURN **ANY** MAN'S HAIR GREY! ... **OH!!**



ADVERTISEMENT



There was a weight lifter named Lane,
Loved **Tootsie Rolls**
while he would train.

They gave him great pleasure
And strength for good measure,
Plus brawn he was using his brain.

What's Your B.Q.*?

BROTHERHOOD WEEK (FEB. 15-22) IS A GOOD TIME FOR ALL OF US TO TAKE INVENTORY ON OUR ATTITUDES. HERE'S A SIMPLE WAY TO FIND YOUR BROTHERHOOD SCORE!

(*BROTHERHOOD QUOTIENT.)

A. CHECK ONE COLUMN FOR EACH ITEM LISTED TO TEST YOUR LIKES AND DISLIKES.

	UGH! DISLIKE	UM! LIKE	SO-SO! LUKEWARM	NO THOUGHT! VACANT
Alligators				
Baptists				
Cabbage				
Catholics				
Detective Stories				
Foreigners				
Indians				
Jews				
Long-hair music				
Negroes				
Spiders				

B. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL?"

YES

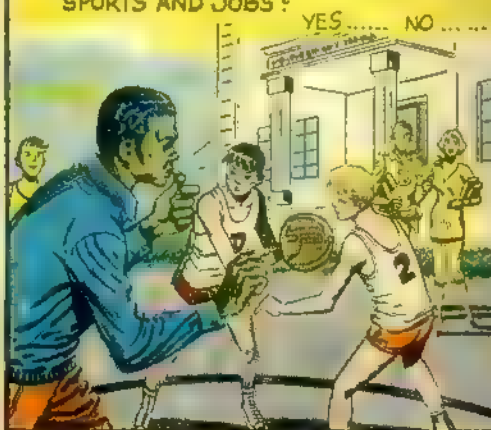
NO



C. DO YOU THINK ALL YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE THE SAME CHANCE FOR EDUCATION, SPORTS AND JOBS?

YES

NO



D. WHEN A NEW CHILD COMES TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, DO YOU GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO MAKE HIM FEEL AT HOME?

YES

NO



HOW DID YOU MAKE OUT IN TEST A? ALL OF US HAVE SOME THINGS WE DON'T LIKE. WHEN THEY'RE VEGETABLES OR INSECTS--NO ONE CARES. BUT WHEN THEY'RE PEOPLE--YOU HURT THEM AND CHEAT YOURSELF.

IF YOU SCORED 3 YES ANSWERS ON QUESTIONS B, C AND D--YOU'RE OKAY! IF YOU DIDN'T--YOU'D BETTER START THINKING ABOUT IT!

Introducing **The GIRL of STEEL!**

HERE IS THE HEROINE
THOUSANDS OF DC
READERS HAVE BEEN
REQUESTING FOR YEARS!

*At last she comes to life
in the MAY issue of*

ACTION COMICS

What is the story
of her origin?

How did she survive
the explosion of
the Planet Krypton?

How will she use her
powers of flying, x-ray
vision and super-strength?

Will she be an **ALLY**
or **RIVAL** of

SUPERMAN?

GREAT GUNS! I SEEM
TO SEE A YOUNGSTER
FLYING, DRESSED IN A
SUPER-COSTUME! IT...
UH... MUST BE AN ILLUSION!

LOOK AGAIN,
SUPERMAN!
IT'S ME...
SUPERGIRL!
AND I'M REAL!



For all the thrilling answers, don't miss...

The SUPERGIRL from KRYPTON!

A BRAND-NEW FEATURE BEGINNING WITH THE MAY ISSUE OF ACTION COMICS!





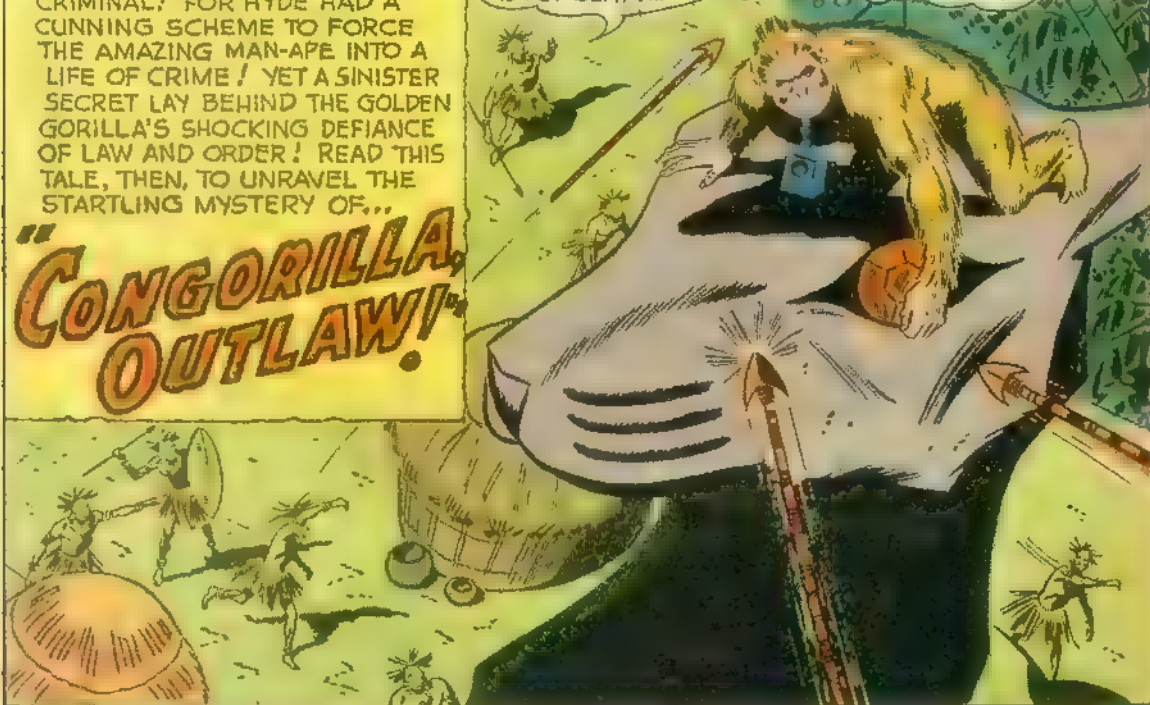
CONGORILLA

IT WAS A TRAGIC DAY WHEN **CONGORILLA** WAS DISCOVERED BY CORLISS HYDE, MASTER CRIMINAL! FOR HYDE HAD A CUNNING SCHEME TO FORCE THE AMAZING MAN-APE INTO A LIFE OF CRIME! YET A SINISTER SECRET LAY BEHIND THE GOLDEN GORILLA'S SHOCKING DEFIANCE OF LAW AND ORDER! READ THIS TALE, THEN, TO UNRAVEL THE STARTLING MYSTERY OF...

"CONGORILLA OUTLAW!"

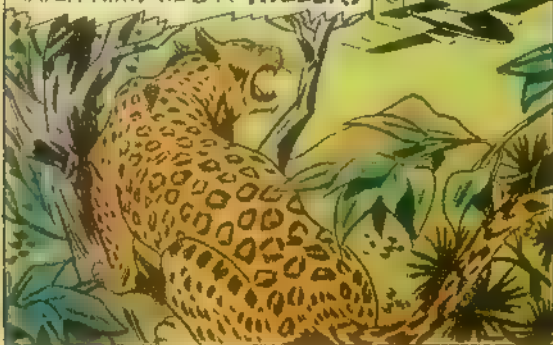
L-LOOK! **CONGORILLA** STEALS THE RUBY EYES FROM OUR IDOL! SLAY HIM!

T-THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND! I **MUST** STEAL THESE RUBIES! MY LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!



AS A **TRANS-CONGO** PLANE STREAKS OVER THE JUNGLE ONE DAY, ITS PILOT RECEIVES A GRIM MESSAGE...

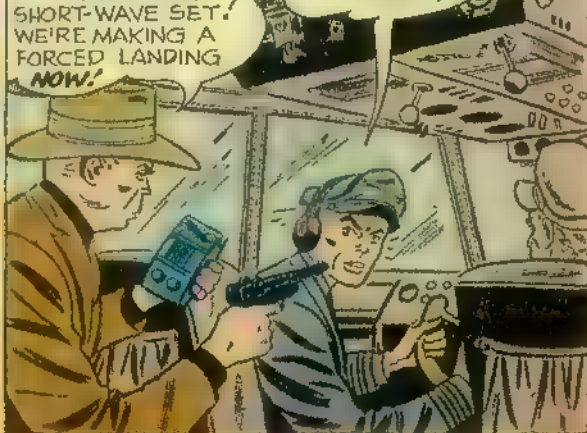
NAIROBI POLICE CALLING FLIGHT 61! PASSENGER #3... CORLISS HYDE... WANTED FOR MURDER! HYDE WILL BE ARRESTED WHEN PLANE LANDS IN LEOPOLDVILLE! WATCH HIM! HE'S A **KILLER!**



BUT A MINUTE LATER, THE PILOT IS SURPRISED...

RAISE 'EM! I'M HYDE! BUT THAT'S C-CRAZY! WE I HEARD THE ALARM ON MY TRANSISTOR SHORT-WAVE SET! WE'RE MAKING A FORCED LANDING NOW!

BUT THAT'S C-CRAZY! WE CAN'T LAND HERE! WE'LL BE KILLED!



BETTER TAKE YOUR CHANCES, CHUM! AND DON'T JOSTLE THE PLANE TOO MUCH! I'VE GOT A VALISE-FULL OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AND **TNT** IN THE BAGGAGE COMPARTMENT.

...GULP!...
T-THANK GOODNESS ONLY A FEW PASSENGERS ARE ABOARD THIS FLIGHT.

MEANWHILE, AS FAMED EXPLORER, **CONGO BILL**, STEALTHILY CREEPS THROUGH THE JUNGLE GRASS...

HMM... USUALLY I NEVER SEE THE **GOLDEN GORILLA** TILL I'VE SWITCHED MINDS WITH HIM! TODAY, THE BEAST'S JUST A HUNDRED YARDS AWAY!

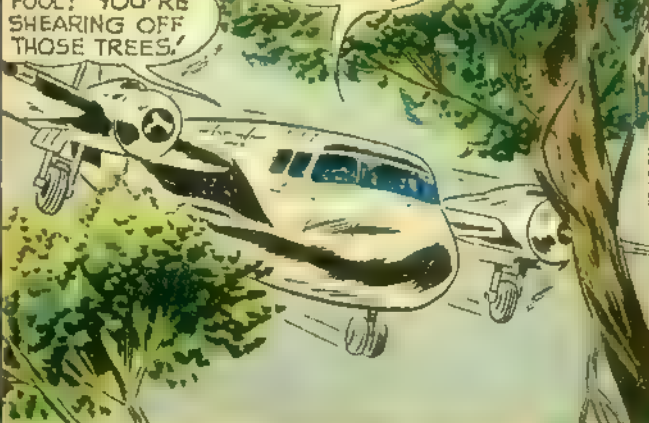
OKAY, PLOT! HEAD FOR THAT CLIFF TOP! STEADY NOW...



NEXT MOMENT...

I-LOOK OUT, YOU FOOL! YOU'RE SHEARING OFF THOSE TREES!

I--I CAN'T SEE! WE'RE GOING TO CRASH!



AS THE SUDDEN, GRINDING IMPACT RESOUNDS THROUGH THE JUNGLE...

CRASH!
CRACK!

H-HOWLING HYENAS! A PLANE'S CRASHED AT THE EDGE OF THAT CLIFF! THE PLANE MUST BE DRAGGED BACK TO SAFETY... I KNOW **WHO'S** GOT THE STRENGTH TO DO IT!

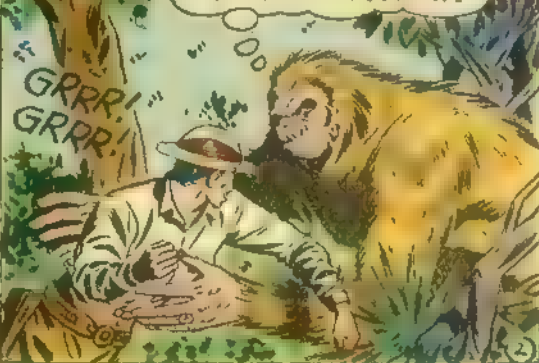


HMM... THE NOISE JOLTED MY GORILLA FRIEND OUT OF HIS SLEEP! HE'S CHARGING! BUT HE'LL NEVER GET ME... THANKS TO THE MAGIC RING THE WITCH DOCTOR GAVE ME!



AN INSTANT AFTER **CONGO BILL** RUBS THE MYSTERIOUS RING...

FOR ONE HOUR MY MIND WILL INHABIT THE GORILLA'S BODY AND HIS, MINE! NOW TO PUT MY PUNY, APE-POSSESSED BODY IN A SAFE PLACE! I KNOW OF A TIGER TRAP NOT FAR AWAY!



PRESENTLY, AS CONGORILLA DRAGS A
FALLEN TREE OVER THE TRAP...

DON'T FUSS, CHUM! NEITHER OF US
CAN CHANGE BACK FOR AN HOUR!
NOT TILL I RUB THE RING ON MY
GORILLA FINGER... AND RESTORE
MY BRAIN TO
YOUR BODY...
NOW I'VE GOT
WORK
TO DO!

GROWWRRR!

TEN MINUTES LATER, AT THE CRASH SITE...

W-WHEW! I'VE D-DRAGGED THE
PLANE BACK ONTO LEVEL
GROUND WHERE IT'S SAFE!
BUT I DON'T HEAR ANY
SOUND FROM INSIDE! I--I
HOPE NOBODY'S BEEN
KILLED!

352

RLINE
SCREEE!

BUT AS CONGORILLA ANXIOUSLY INVESTIGATES, HE IS
UNAWARE HE IS BEING WATCHED...

T-THAT GORILLA'S GOT
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE!
HE'S TAKING CARE OF
ALL THE INJURED... BUT
THEY DON'T KNOW IT,
BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL
UNCONSCIOUS!

THESE PASSENGERS ARE
BADLY HURT! IF THE RADIOS
WORKING, I'LL SEND AN
S.O.S.

SOON AFTER, AS CONGORILLA TAPS OUT
AN SOS...

I DON'T KNOW HOW
THAT BEAST CAN BE SO SMART...
BUT I CAN USE A CLEVER GORILLA...
HM... WHILE HE'S BUSY, I'LL FETCH
SOME THINGS FROM MY LUGGAGE...

TICK!
TICK!
TICK!

AND SO, LATER, WHILE CONGORILLA ATTENDS TO
THE INJURED...

G-GAS!
SLEEPING
GAS! I...

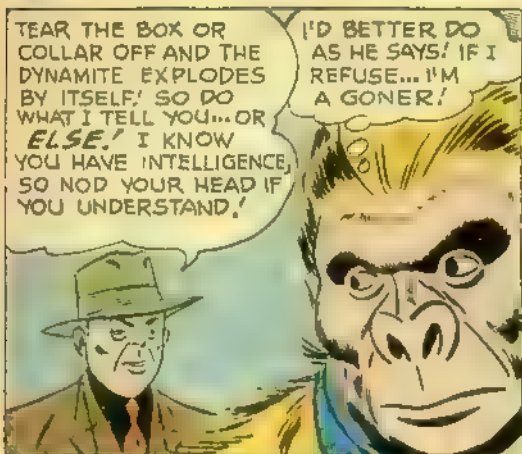
IN TWO SECONDS, THE APE'LL
PASS OUT FROM THE EFFECTS
OF THE GAS BOMB! THEN
I'LL PUT MY TNT AND
ELECTRONIC MATERIALS
TO WORK!

PSSST!

MUCH LATER, WHEN CONGORILLA
DIZZILY COMES TO...

DON'T MOVE, MR.
GORILLA! SEE THIS
CONTROL BOX?
DISOBEY ME AND I'LL
PUSH THE BUTTON! ITS
ELECTRONIC IMPULSES
WILL INSTANTLY EXPLODE
THE TNT ATTACHED TO
THE IRON COLLAR
AROUND YOUR NECK AND
YOU'LL BE BLOWN TO
BITS!

L-LEAPING
LEOPARDS! H-HE
PUT THIS COLLAR
ON ME WHILE I
WAS SLEEPING! HE
KNOWS I'VE GOT A
HUMAN MIND!



TEAR THE BOX OR COLLAR OFF AND THE DYNAMITE EXPLODES BY ITSELF! SO DO WHAT I TELL YOU...OR ELSE! I KNOW YOU HAVE INTELLIGENCE, SO NOD YOUR HEAD IF YOU UNDERSTAND!

I'D BETTER DO AS HE SAYS! IF I REFUSE... I'M A GONER!

PRESENTLY, AS THE ESCAPED KILLER GLOATS OVER HIS PLANS...

...SO I LEFT NAIROBI WITHOUT A DIME! BUT BEFORE I DROP OUT OF SIGHT, I'LL TAKE A FORTUNE IN GEMS WITH ME! SO ON YOUR FEET... AND NO TRICKS!

H-HE'S GOT ME COLD! I MUST OBEY HIM!



SOON, A SHORT MARCH FROM THE WRECKED PLANE...

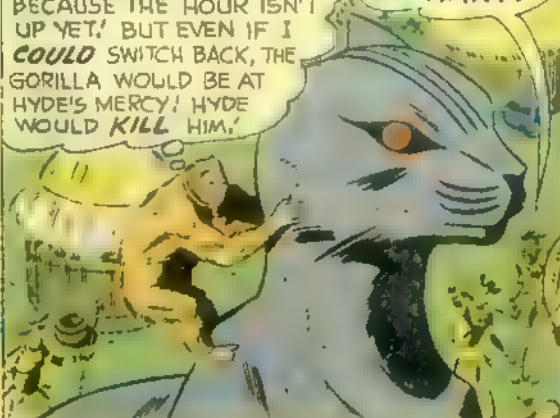
THERE'S THE MIGAWI VILLAGE! ONLY A GORILLA HAS THE AGILITY TO CLIMB THEIR CAT IDOL... AND THE STRENGTH TO PLUCK OUT ITS HUGE RUBY EYES! GET THEM FOR ME! IF YOU DON'T RETURN IN TEN MINUTES, I'LL PUSH THE BUTTON!



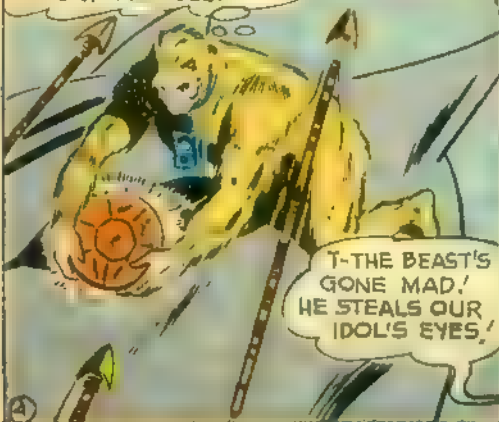
SOON, AS AMAZEMENT SEIZES THE NATIVES...

I'M COMPLETELY IN HYDE'S POWER! I CAN'T RETURN TO MY OWN CONGO BILL BODY BECAUSE THE HOUR ISN'T UP YET! BUT EVEN IF I COULD SWITCH BACK, THE GORILLA WOULD BE AT HYDE'S MERCY! HYDE WOULD KILL HIM!

OOK! IT'S CONGORILLA! W-WHAT DOES HE WANT!

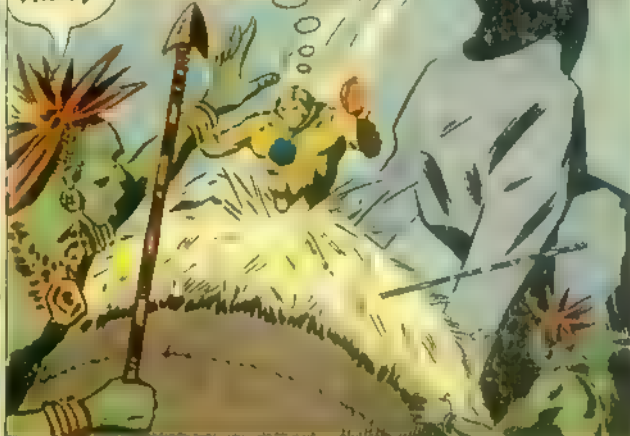


HYDE'S CORRECT! NO H-HUMAN BEING COULD RIP THESE IMMENSE RUBIES OUT OF THEIR STONE SOCKETS!... GASP!... I HAVE TO STRAIN EVERY MUSCLE!



T-THE BEAST'S GONE MAD! HE STEALS OUR IDOL'S EYES!

KILL THE THIEF! KILL HIM! A SOFT LANDING ON AN EMPTY HUT! NOW BACK TO HYDE...



TWENTY MINUTES LATER, A MILE AWAY...

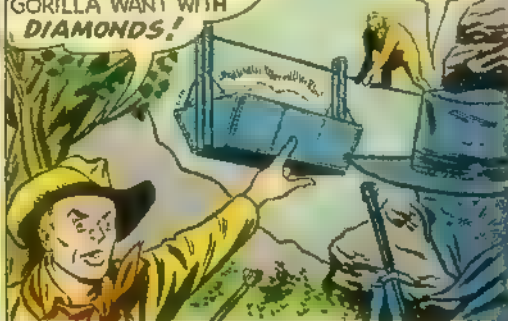
THIS JOB'LL BE **REALLY** TOUGH, MR. GORILLA! SEE THAT MONORAIL? IT'S LEAVING THE DE GUICHE DIAMOND MINE WITH THE DAY'S YIELD OF RAW DIAMONDS! HERE'S HOW YOU'LL STEAL IT...



MINUTES AFTER, AS GUARDS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE GORGE GAPE...

IT'S **CONGORILLA**! HE SEEMS TO BE FOLLOWING THE DIAMOND CAR! B-BUT WHAT WOULD A GORILLA WANT WITH **DIAMONDS**!

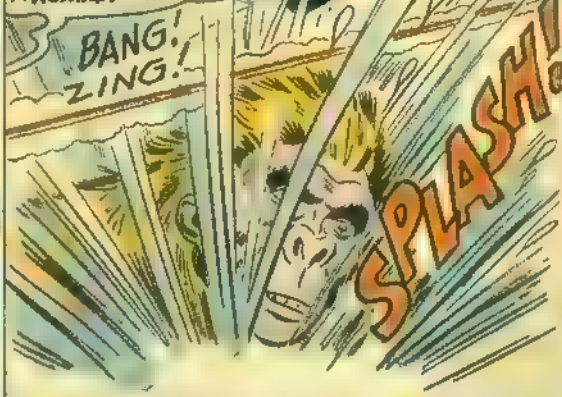
IT DOESN'T MATTER! HE'S UP TO MISCHIEF! OPEN FIRE BEFORE HE STEALS THE **GEMS**!



THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO AVOID THEIR BULLETS! I'LL HAVE TO REMOVE MYSELF AS A **TARGET**!



THE SCHEMING APE! HE'S **DIVING**! H-HE'S MORE CUNNING THAN A **HUMAN THIEF**!



PRESENTLY, AS THE DRENCHED APE EMERGES FROM THE WATER...

MARVELOUS, MR. GORILLA! THAT HIGH DIVE WAS A STROKE OF **GENIUS**! NOW GIVE ME THE **DIAMONDS**! D-DID YOU **HEAR** ME?... THE **DIAMONDS**! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? **OBEY** WHEN I TELL YOU! **GIVE ME THE DIAMONDS**!



BUT AS **CONGORILLA** AMAZINGLY IGNORES HIS "MASTER'S" COMMANDS...

SO! Y-YOU **DISOBEY** ME! I WARN YOU FOR THE LAST TIME! TAKE ANOTHER STEP TOWARD ME AND I'LL BLOW YOU TO PIECES!

ALL RIGHT, YOU FOOL! YOU **DEFIED** ME! THEREFORE **DIE**!





ACTION COMICS



T-THERE'S **NO EXPLOSION!** SOMETHING'S WRONG! THE EXPLOSION **HAD** TO GO OFF! IT **HAD** TO! STAY AWAY F-FROM ME! **STAY AWAY!**

WHAT HYDE DOESN'T REALIZE IS...THAT THE **WATER** I DIVED INTO **RUINED** THE ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS IN MY COLLAR! HE **CAN'T** BLOW ME UP!

BEFORE **CONGORILLA** CAN STOP THE FRANTIC KILLER... ALL RIGHT! YOU ASKED FOR IT! I WAS GOING TO KILL YOU ANYWAY, AFTER YOU SERVED MY PURPOSE! BULLETS WILL DO THE SAME JOB! THIS IS YOUR FINISH, YOU STUPID APE!

BWEE!
BANG! BANG!
BWEE!

BUT AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT... AMAZINGLY...

YUI!

GREAT SCOTT! THE BULLETS **RICOCHETED** OFF MY IRON COLLAR... AND STRUCK HIM!... **K-KILLING** HIM! DESTINY HAS SPARED THE LAW THE JOB OF EXECUTING HYDE FOR HIS CRIMES!

LATER THAT DAY, AFTER **CONGORILLA** RUINED THE MAGIC RING AND BECAMES HIS HUMAN IDENTITY, **CONGO BILL** ONCE MORE...

WE NO UNDERSTAND **CONGORILLA**, CONGO BILL! FIRST HE STEAL RUBIES. THEN HE RETURN RUBIES! WE HEAR HE DO SAME THING WITH DIAMONDS!

IT SURE IS A MYSTERY, CHIMP!

...A MYSTERY ONLY I CAN SOLVE! EVERYBODY ON THE PLANE IS SAFE! HYDE REAPED HIS JUST REWARD! AND **CONGORILLA'S** 'CRIME' CAREER IS OVER!

ADVERTISEMENT

There once was an archer named Park,
Who shot arrows from dawn until dark.
At each target he'd aim,
"My shots, he'd exclaim,
Like **Tootsie Roll POPS**, hit the mark!"

The only **POD** in the world with a center of delicious **Tootsie Roll**

METROPOLIS MAILBAG



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

TOMMY TOMMORROW, long a popular favorite with readers of **ACTION COMICS**, henceforth will appear in our companion magazine, **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS**, beginning with the June issue. **TOMMY TOMORROW** will be replaced in this magazine with a brand-new character, **SUPERGIRL**. For additional news regarding **SUPERGIRL**, see the full-page announcement elsewhere in this issue.—Editor

Dear Editor:

It is an established fact that **SUPERMAN** cannot see through lead. What I would like to know is, can **SUPERMAN** hear through lead? In other words, if he were in a solid lead room, would he be able to detect outside sounds with his sense of super-hearing?

—Carol Oberman, Detroit, Mich.

(**SUPERMAN** can hear through lead, even though he can't see through it. We think this fact has been made clear in several past stories.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

Are we ever going to see a Super (old) man with grey temples and a few wrinkles here and there?

—Lillian Stevens, Seattle, Wash.

(See the cover of this issue.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

When **SUPERMAN** is in his secret identity of Clark Kent, his hair is combed back, but when he is the Man of Steel, his hair has a curl in front? Why the difference?

—Scott Patterson, Chevy Chase, Md.

(Don't you think the change in hair-do, plus the elimination of glasses, helps his disguise? —Ed.)

Dear Editor:

If **SUPERMAN** can live forever and keeps on posing as Clark Kent, wouldn't that give away his identity?

—Andrew Feinberg, N.Y.C.

(We can answer that in the year 2,000. In the meanwhile, see the story in this issue, "The

Oldest Man of Metropolis," in which Clark encounters the very problem you mention.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

Just a few words to congratulate you for the way you've made Congo Bill more exciting by changing him into **CONGORILLA**. His adventures as a man-ape are terrific. I think this is the greatest gorilla since King Kong.

—Ben Kalb, London, England.

Dear Editor:

I've been a faithful **SUPERMAN** reader for many years. I remember a somewhat similar action character many years ago named "Captain Marvel." Could you tell me what ever happened to Captain Marvel?

—Victor Wheatman, New York, N.Y.

(Captain Marvel, obviously not as invulnerable as **SUPERMAN**, passed into limbo several years ago when the magazine which featured his adventures expired.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

What makes **SUPERMAN** allergic to Kryptonite since he left the planet Krypton? Why is this substance the only thing that can harm **SUPERMAN**?

—Mike Hutcheson, West Va.

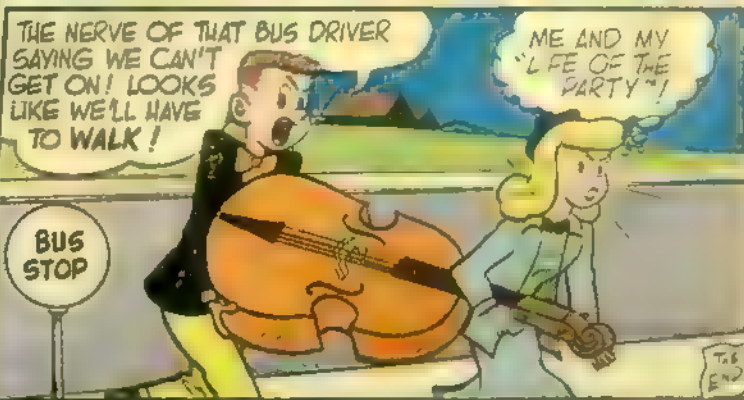
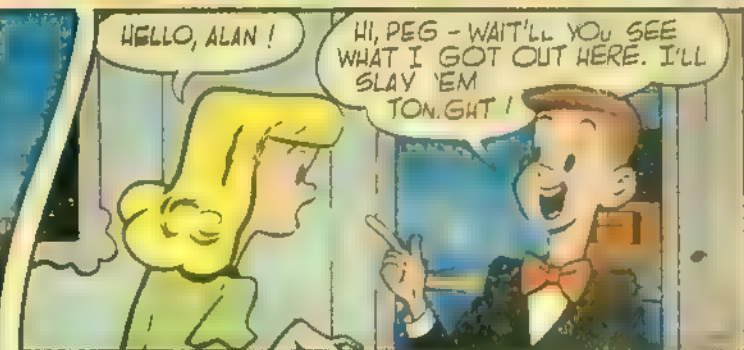
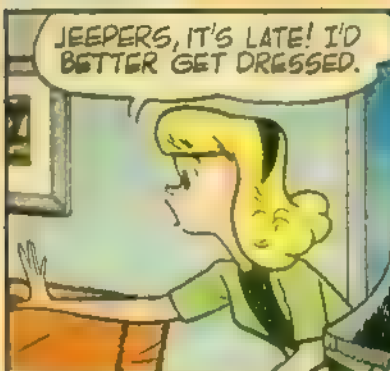
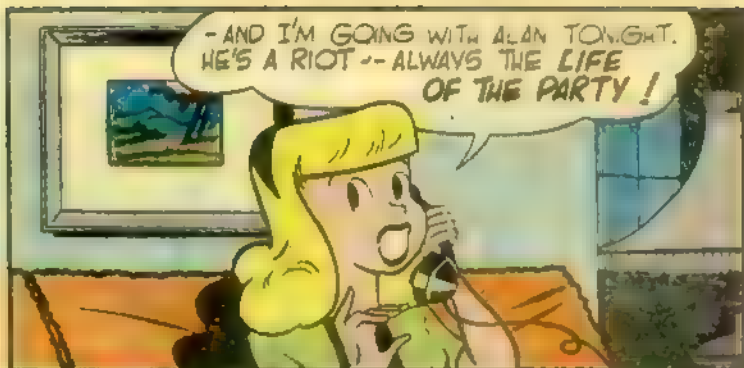
(See a forthcoming issue of **SUPERMAN COMICS** for "The Untold Story of Kryptonite." It should clear up many complexities about this element for you.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

I've been reading **SUPERMAN** adventures for many years now. Among my favorite characters who are **SUPERMAN**'S arch-enemies, are Luthor, the Prankster and the Toyman. However, one character I haven't seen in a long time is that imp from the fifth dimension, Mr. Mxyzptlk. When will he come back from his fifth dimension and vex **SUPERMAN** again?

—Jeff Gerard, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(You're referring to that pixie whom **SUPERMAN** could dispose of only by making him say his own name, Mxyzptlk, backwards. You'll be seeing him soon in **SUPERMAN COMICS**.—Ed.)



SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Saturn No. 5)

WZ CJIZNO RDOC TJPM
NZGA VIY TJP RDGG
WZ CJIZNO RDOC ZQZ-
MTJIZ

SUPERMAN.

c o ACTION COMICS

575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 22, N. Y.

Dear Superman

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Emblem, and Superman Code

NAME.....

AGE.....

STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

APR.

Tommy TOMORROW

SPINNING SATURN!
THIS GIANT SPACE
AMOEBE CAN SWALLOW
ANYTHING IN ITS PATH.
AND NONE OF OUR
WEAPONS CAN STOP IT!

ONE DAY IN THE YEAR
2059, AS A **PLANETEER**
CRUISES ON PATROL AT THE
EDGE OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

ATTENTION, EARTH HEADQUARTERS!
HAVE SIGHTED STRANGE NEW PLANET-
OID APPROACHING FROM OUTER
SPACE! WILL INVESTIGATE.

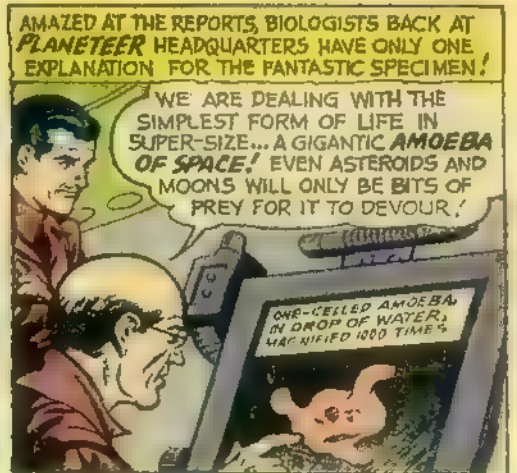
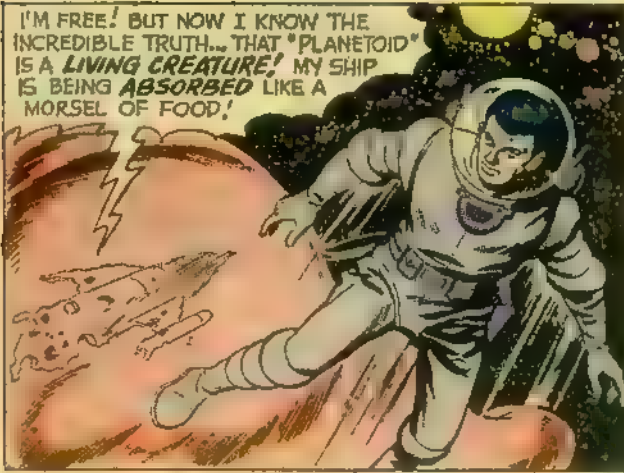
SOS! SOS! THE GROUND
ISN'T SOLID! MY SHIP IS SINK-
ING AS IF IN QUICKSAND! I'LL
TRY TO ESCAPE WITH MY
JET-POWERED SPACESUIT!

PLANETEER

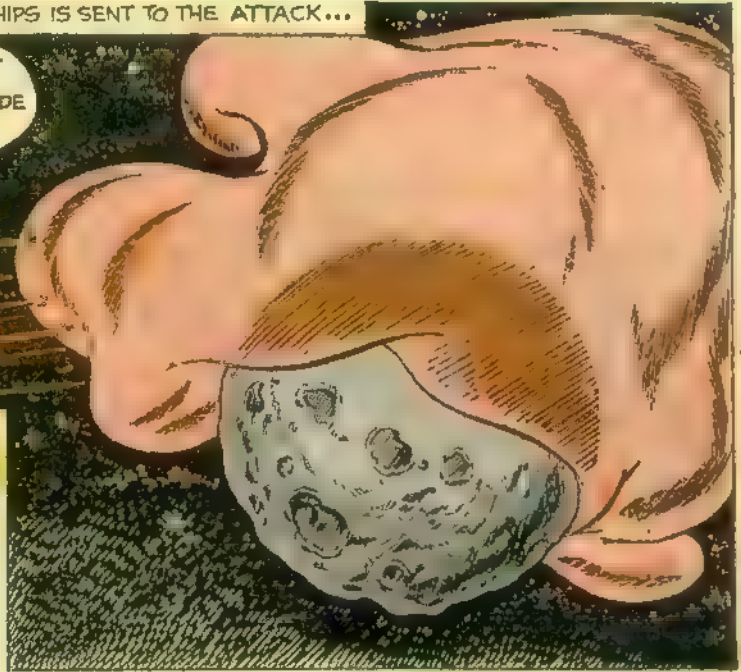
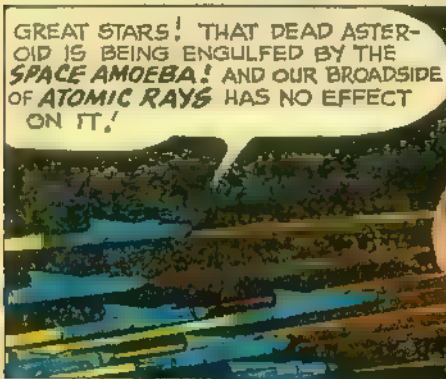
DRAGON

COLONEL TOMMY

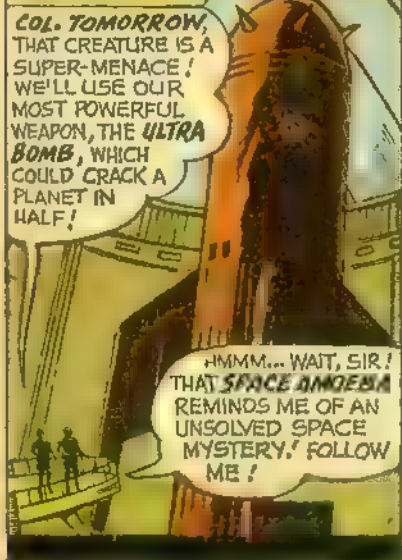
"THE
GIANT AMOEBA
of SPACE!"



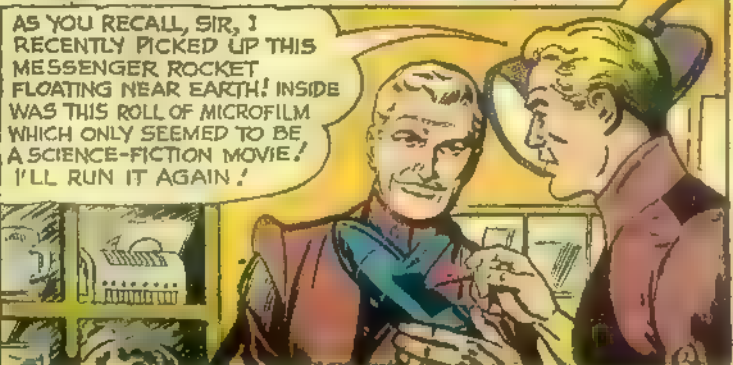
AS A SQUADRON OF **PLANETEER** WARSHIPS IS SENT TO THE ATTACK...



AT **PLANETEER** HEADQUARTERS ON EARTH, THE CHIEF COMMANDER CALLS IN HIS ACE, **COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW...**

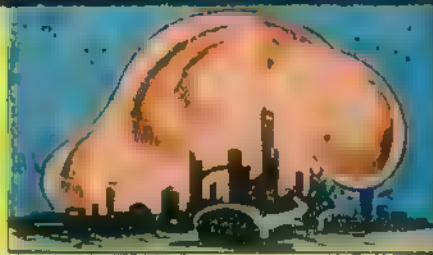


SOON, IN THE **SPACE "LOST AND FOUND"** DEPARTMENT...



AS TOMMY OPERATES A MICROFILM PROJECTOR...

THE FILM SHOWS THE SAME KIND OF CREATURE MENACING ANOTHER UNIVERSE! LANDING ON INHABITED PLANETS, IT ROLLED OVER CITIES!



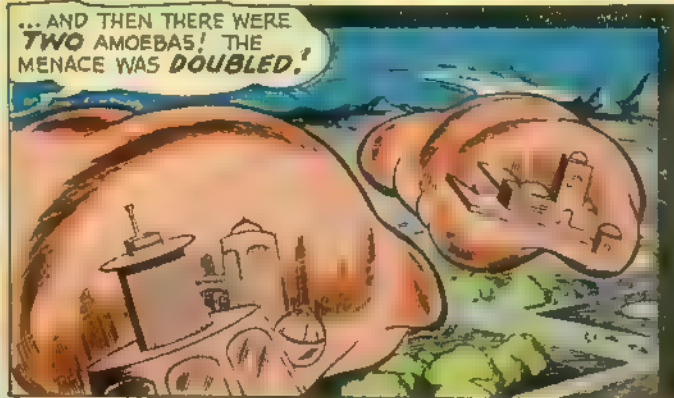
WHEN IT ROLLED ON, IT LEFT ONLY BARE GROUND BEHIND IT!



WHEN THE DESPERATE INHABITANTS USED A SUPER-BOMB AGAINST IT, THE CREATURE ONLY SPLIT APART...



...AND THEN THERE WERE **TWO** AMOEBAS! THE MENACE WAS **DOUBLED!**

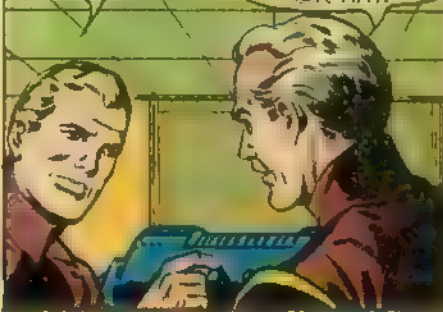


MORE SUPER-BOMBS ONLY MADE **TWO** SPLIT INTO **FOUR**, THE **FOUR** INTO **EIGHT**, AND SO ON! FINALLY, AFTER THE HORDE OF **SPACE AMOEBAS** WIPED OUT THEIR UNIVERSE, THE LAST SCIENTIST SENT THIS FILM IN A MESSENGER ROCKET TOWARD OUR UNIVERSE!



NOW WE KNOW THAT WASN'T JUST A SCIENCE-FICTION MOVIE... BUT THE **REAL THING!** IT'S A WARNING TO US **NOT** TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE!

THEN WE-WE DON'T DARE USE OUR **ULTRA BOMBS**, OR THE **SPACE AMOEBAS** WILL SPLIT AND RE-SPLIT INTO MANY OTHERS. WE MUST DEFEAT IT SOME OTHER WAY!



COL. TOMORROW! I PLACE YOU IN CHARGE OF ALL OUR **PLANETEER** SPECIAL SQUADS! YOU MUST STOP THAT BEAST BEFORE IT REACHES EARTH!

YES, SIR!

ROBOT
COMMANDOS
INTERPLANETARY
DEMOLITION
EXPERTS
SUPER-BARRIER
CORPS
SPACE
HARPOONIST
CREW

SHORTLY, AS TOMMY TAKES COMMAND OF A SUPER **PLANETEER** SHIP...

RADAR CREW! KEEP SHARP WATCH FOR THE **SPACE AMOEBE!**

I'VE GOT IT, SIR! LOOK! IT... IT'S STARTING TO DESTROY THE RINGS OF SATURN!

SPEEDING THERE, TOMMY SENDS FORTH HIS FIRST CREW OF SPECIALISTS!

YOU **ROBOT COMMANDOS** MUST LAND ON THE CREATURE AND USE YOUR POWERFUL WEAPONS! FIND SOME VITAL SPOT! **GO!**

BUT THE ROBOTS MEET SWIFT DISASTER!

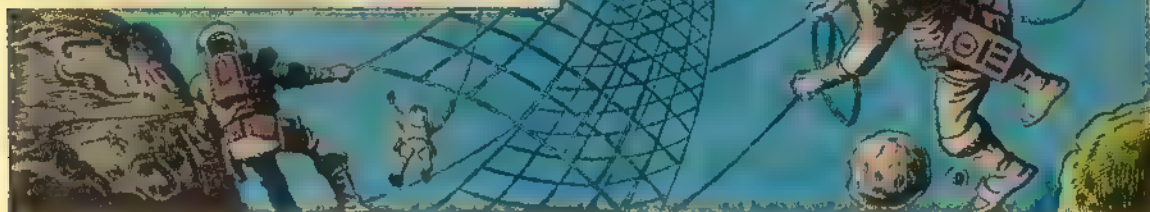
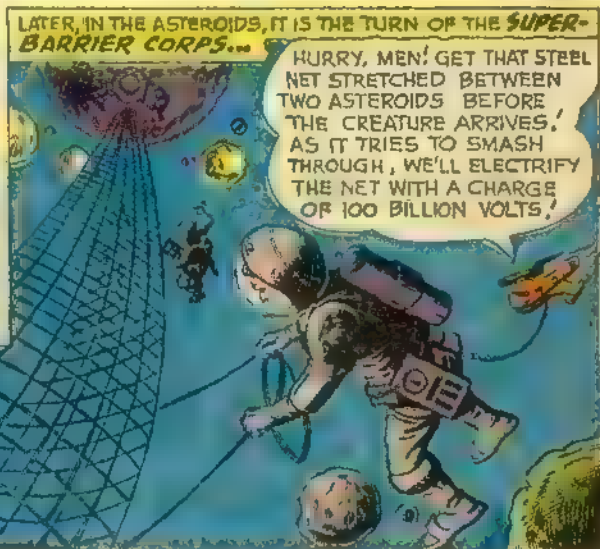
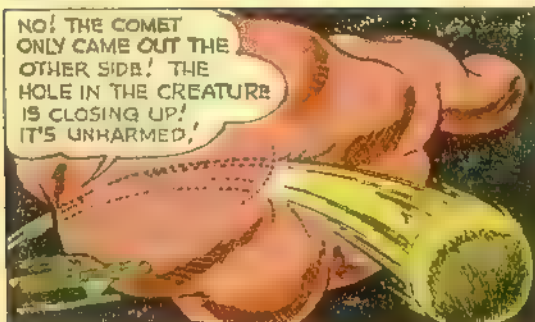
THE CREATURE FORMED A TENTACLE AND IS SQUEEZING US TILL WE BURST APART! SORRY, SIR... WE FAILED!

NEXT, TOMMY UTILIZES THE **INTERPLANETARY DEMOLITION EXPERTS...**

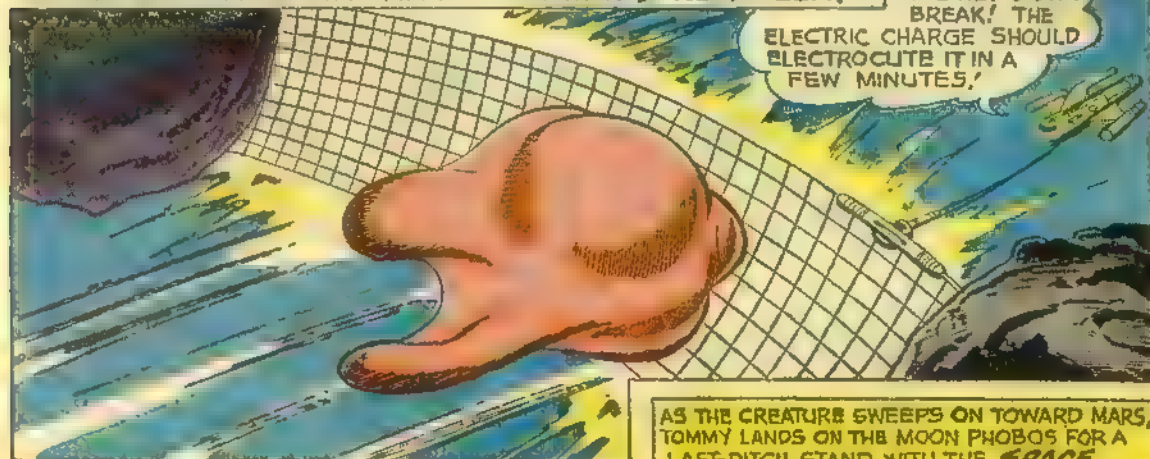
WE CAUGHT UP WITH THAT SPEEDING COMET! MY MEN WILL WIRE AN ELECTRONIC GUIDANCE DEVICE TO THE COMET'S HEAD!

SHORTLY, AFTER THE EXPERTS ARE TAKEN ABOARD AGAIN...

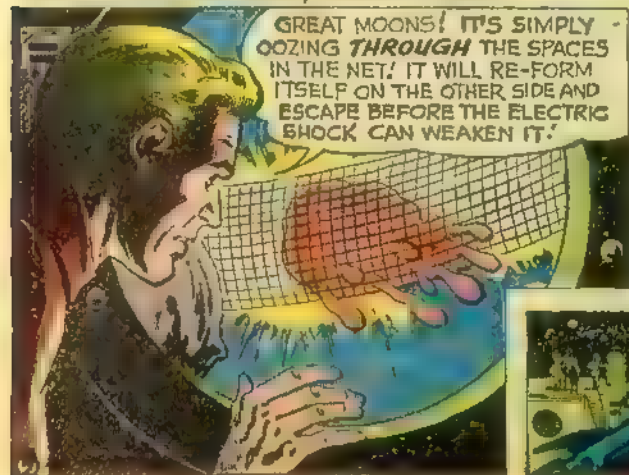
IT'S THE LATEST IN GUIDED MISSILES-- A **GUIDED COMET!** WE'LL SHOOT IT STRAIGHT INTO THE **SPACE AMOEBE!** WILL THIS WORK?



WILL THIS DEATH-DEALING BARRIER HALT THE ONRUSHING **SPACE AMOEBA?**



BUT TO TOMMY'S DISMAY, MOMENTS LATER...

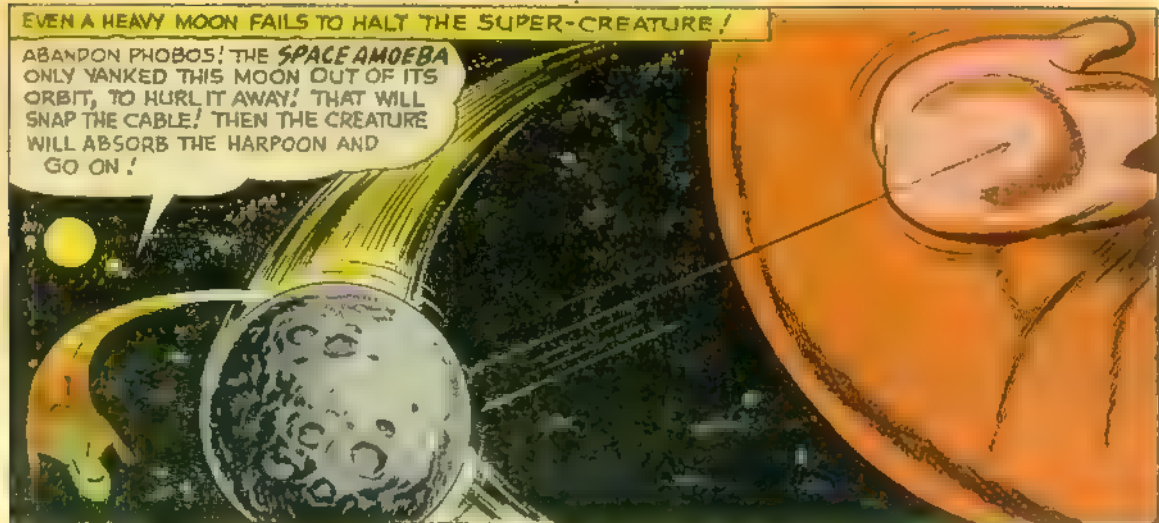


AS THE CREATURE SWEEPS ON TOWARD MARS, TOMMY LANDS ON THE MOON PHOBOS FOR A LAST-DITCH STAND WITH THE **SPACE HARPOONISTS!**



EVEN A HEAVY MOON FAILS TO HALT THE SUPER-CREATURE!

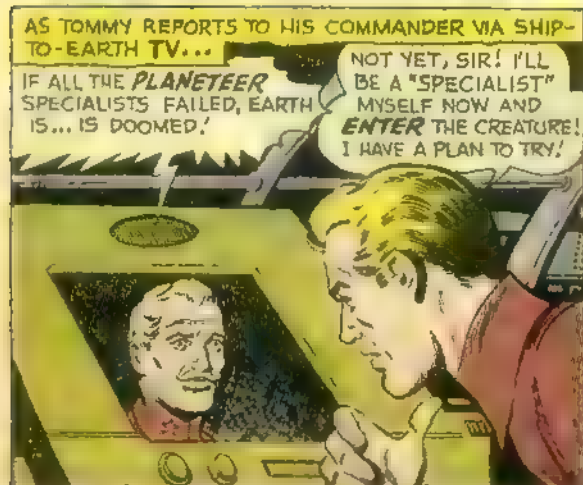
ABANDON PHOBOS! THE **SPACE AMOEBA** ONLY YANKED THIS MOON OUT OF ITS ORBIT, TO HURL IT AWAY! THAT WILL SNAP THE CABLE! THEN THE CREATURE WILL ABSORB THE HARPOON AND GO ON!



AS TOMMY REPORTS TO HIS COMMANDER VIA SHIP-TO-EARTH TV...

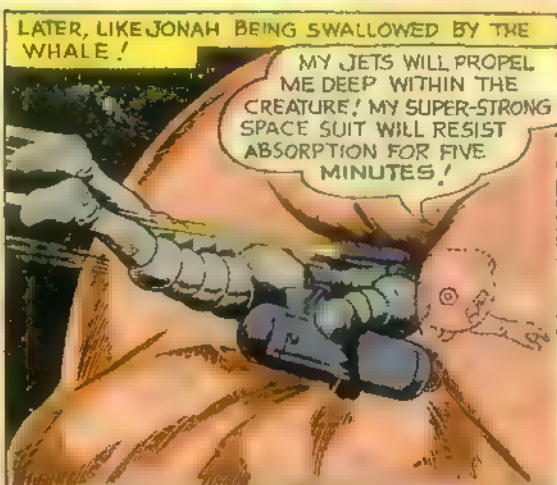
IF ALL THE **PLANETEER** SPECIALISTS FAILED, EARTH IS... IS DOOMED!

NOT YET, SIR! I'LL BE A "SPECIALIST" MYSELF NOW AND **ENTER** THE CREATURE! I HAVE A PLAN TO TRY!



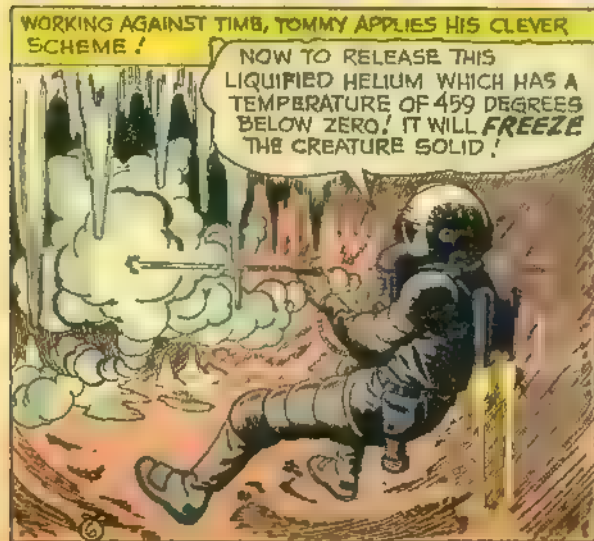
LATER, LIKE JONAH BEING SWALLOWED BY THE WHALE!

MY JETS WILL PROPEL ME DEEP WITHIN THE CREATURE! MY SUPER-STRONG SPACE SUIT WILL RESIST ABSORPTION FOR FIVE MINUTES!



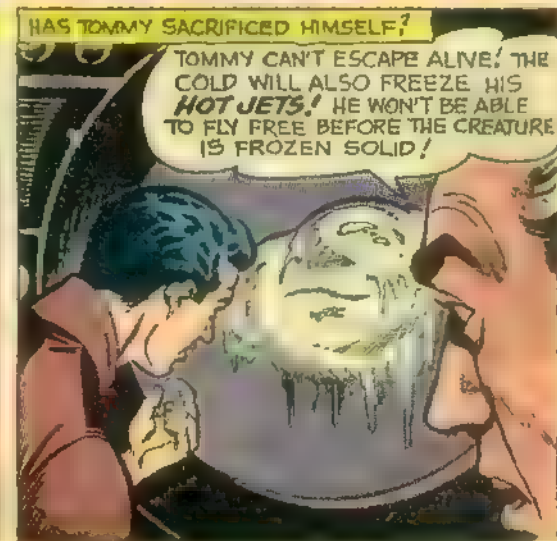
WORKING AGAINST TIMB, TOMMY APPLIES HIS CLEVER SCHEME!

NOW TO RELEASE THIS LIQUIFIED HELIUM WHICH HAS A TEMPERATURE OF 459 DEGREES BELOW ZERO! IT WILL **FREEZE** THE CREATURE SOLID!



HAS TOMMY SACRIFICED HIMSELF?

TOMMY CAN'T ESCAPE ALIVE! THE COLD WILL ALSO FREEZE HIS **HOT JETS!** HE WON'T BE ABLE TO FLY FREE BEFORE THE CREATURE IS FROZEN SOLID!



BUT AMAZINGLY, JUST BEFORE THE CREATURE'S OUTER SKIN FREEZES SOLID...

GREAT NEBULA!
LOOK! HOW DID TOMMY
GET OUT WITH HIS
JETS FROZEN?

THE **SPACE AMOEBA** IS GOING
INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION!
WE CAN TOW IT AWAY!

LATER, AT THE OUTERMOST
PLANET OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM...

THE CREATURE
WILL NEVER
MELT AND
REAWAKEN
HERE, ON PERPETUALLY
FROZEN PLUTO, WHERE
SUMMER NEVER COMES!

FINALLY, AT EARTH HEADQUARTERS...

YOU WIN THE **INTERPLANETARY
MEDAL OF HONOR**, COLONEL!
BUT WE'RE ALL GOING CRAZY
WONDERING HOW YOU WON FREE
FROM THE FROZEN CREATURE
WHEN YOUR FLYING JETS
WERE DEAD!

I WAS HELPED BY
THE **SPACE AMOEBA**
ITSELF, SIR! I HAD THIS
CARTON ALONG, WHICH I
FOUND IN THE LOCKER
OF ONE OF THE MEN
WHO LIKES TO PLAY
PRACTICAL JOSES!

WHEN I SPRINKLED THIS INSIDE THE
CREATURE, JUST BEFORE IT FROZE
SOLD, IT...ER... **SNEEZED ME OUT!**

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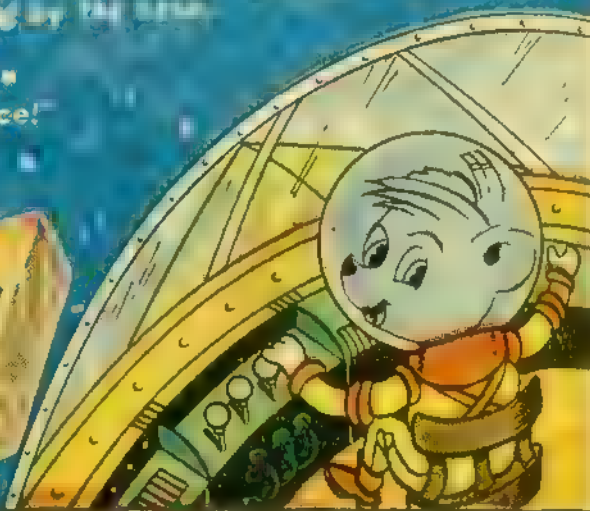
There once was a rocket-ship ace

who loved **Tootsie Roll Fudge** by the name

of **TOOTSIE**!

He said, "They're so pleasin'!

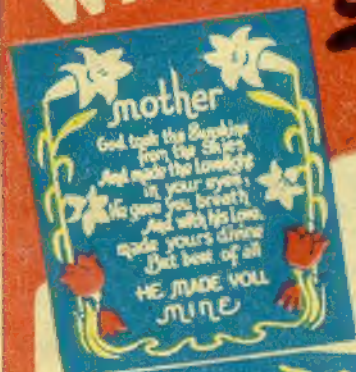
Who wants to run short out in space!



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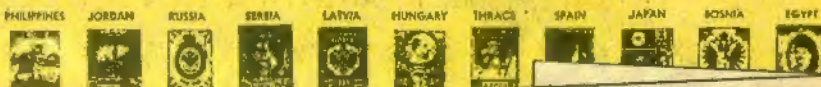
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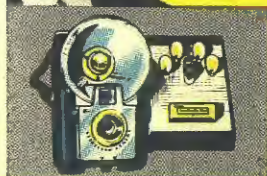
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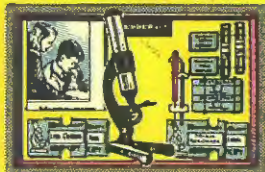
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